757 864 8298

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Langley Research Center 100 NASA Road Hampton, VA 23681-2199



Reply to Attn. of:

December 6, 2004

141

TO:

Distribution

FROM:

141/Acting Chief Counsel, Office of Chief Counsel

SUBJECT:

Blanket Determination Regarding Attendance at the Virginia Air & Space

Center Annual Donor Appreciation Reception

The Virginia Air & Space Center will host an Annual Donor Appreciation Reception on Thursday, December 9, 2004, at 7:00 p.m. at the Virginia Air & Space Center (VASC) in Hampton, Virginia. The event will consist of a cocktail reception and the IMAX movie premiere of Fighter Pilot, Operation Red Flag. Attendees will include contributors to the VASC, local officials, and other participants involved in NASA and VASC programs. The event is sponsored by The Boeing Company, with additional support from the Hampton Radisson Hotel, Skyy Vodka, and Graham and Rollins Seafood. I have determined it to be in the best interest of the Government for those invited NASA employees and their guests to attend this event in their official capacities and as representatives of NASA.

The reception will be a widely attended gathering attended by numerous Federal and Commonwealth government employees, representatives of academia, and local business leaders. NASA invitees will have the opportunity to meet with key public officials, local business leaders, and members of academia who have an interest in NASA's space and aeronautics mission. In accordance with 5 CFR §2635.204(g), and 14 CFR §1207.103, Designation of Responsible Officials, I find that the event meets the definition of a widely attended gathering and, in light of NASA's involvement in space and aeronautics research activity impacting the local community and VASC, I conclude that NASA's interest in its employees attending this event outweighs any concern that free attendance may, or may appear to, improperly influence any NASA personnel in the performance of their official duties.

Accordingly, NASA Langley Research Center employees and their spouses who are invited may participate in the reception without charge.

Shawn T. Gallagher

43221

(1,0024342:1)